



Ankin Law Office LLC

Protecting the Rights of Injured Workers

162 W Grand Ave
Chicago, Illinois 60654, United States
Tel: 312-346-8780 or 800-442-6546
Fax: 312-346-8781
Email: howard@ankinlaw.com
Website: www.ankinlaw.com
Blog: www.thechicago-injury-lawyer.com

Malfunctioning Car Seat Heaters Can Pose a Serious Threat



Malfunctioning car seat heaters are an increasing problem, especially for paralyzed individuals. People with limited or no feeling in their lower extremities can unknowingly suffer severe burns when car seat heaters overheat. For these people, this issue is a matter of serious concern.

As reported in this USA Today [article](#), a 2003 study highlighted the need for tighter controls and regulation of car seat heaters and the risks posed when these devices malfunction:

Greenhalgh, chief of burns at Shriners Hospital for Children in Northern California, says 105 degrees is the maximum temperature a seat should ever reach.

Greenhalgh, co-author of a 2003 study on the issue, has treated a patient who received third-degree burns after 20 minutes in a car seat where the heater reached 120 degrees in one spot. Medical literature shows these burns can occur within 10 minutes at 120 degrees.

In part because of the concerns raised by Greenhalgh, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration plans to review the issue and determine if any actions need to be taken in regard to car seat heaters:

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said Wednesday that it will analyze its data to see how widespread the problem of burns from car seat heaters is and whether heaters that can burn people pose “an unreasonable risk to safety.”

In the meantime, in order to avoid [serious injuries](#), it is recommended that people with lower-body sensory deficits disconnect the heaters. Additionally, automobile manufacturers are being asked to consider setting a maximum temperature for heaters and install timers that automatically turn them off, steps that some automakers have already taken.

Howard Ankin of Ankin Law Office LLC (www.ankinlaw.com) handles [workers' compensation](#) and [personal injury cases](#). Mr. Ankin can be reached at (312) 346-8780 and howard@ankinlaw.com

ANKIN LAW OFFICE LLC

[Chicago Workers Compensation](#) | [Chicago Personal Injury](#) | [Chicago Motor Vehicle Accidents](#)
[Chicago Wrongful Death](#) | [Chicago Social Security Disability](#) | [Chicago Class Action Lawsuits](#)



Ankin Law Office LLC

Protecting the Rights of Injured Workers

162 W Grand Ave
Chicago, Illinois 60654, United States

Tel: 312-346-8780 or 800-442-6546

Fax: 312-346-8781

Email: howard@ankinlaw.com

Website: www.ankinlaw.com

Blog: www.thechicago-injury-lawyer.com

Related articles

[Car seat heaters become safety target](#) (usatoday.com)

[Hot Cross Buns: NHTSA reportedly set to investigate seat heater burns](#) (autoblog.com)

[5 more fresh articles...](#)

By [Admin - BN](#)

March 15, 2011